

**Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER COMPLAINT**

Name of Center: Little Wonders Child Care & Learning Center		Enrollment: 93	License ID: 4125000041
Street: 145 NE Dartmoor	City: Waukee	IA Zip Code: 50263	County: Dallas
Mailing Address: 145 NE Dartmoor			
Mailing City: Waukee		IA Zip Code: 50263	
Director's Name: Emily Steele		Center Phone Number: 515-987-0443	
On-Site Supervisors: Jamie Skillen		E-Mail Address: Emily@littlewondersweb.com	

Date of Complaint: 10/23/2014

Date of Visit: 10/23/2014

☐ Scheduled ☒ Unannounced ☐ NA

☐ Non-Compliance with Regulations Found ☒ Compliance with Regulations Found ☐ NA

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

[X] NO CHANGES to licensing status recommended

[] **PROVISIONAL** license from _____ to _____

[] SUSPENSION of License

[] **REVOCATION of License**

Summary of Complaint:

On 10/23/14, it was reported that staff member, AS, was being rough with one particular infant. Specifically, AS kept trying to bottle feed the infant even though the infant was "choking" and not hungry. AS also allegedly forcefully threw the infant into the crib when the baby wouldn't eat because she was upset with the infant. This alleged incident occurred on 10/15/14.

Licensing Rules Relevant to the Complaint:

109.12(2) Discipline does not allow -- corporal punishment; punishment that causes humiliation, fear, pain or discomfort; locking children in an area or using mechanical restraints; associating with illness, toilet training, food or rest; or the use of verbal abuse, threats, or derogatory remarks about a child's family.

Inspection Findings:

An unannounced visit was made to the center in the afternoon of 10/23/14. Subsequent visits took place on 10/24/14 and 10/29/14. Staff members who work in the infant room with AS as well as the director/owner of the center were interviewed in person and individually regarding the alleged incident. For all interviews, DHS worker Kristin Schweiger, was also present. One staff member was not interviewed in person as she was not available at the center.

AS was interviewed individually with her mother also present. AS stated that she works in the afternoons and closes the infant room. The alleged incident on 10/15/14 was explained to AS. AS denied feeding the child to the point where the child was choking on formula. AS stated that she attempted to feed the infant a bottle when she got into work. AS stated she picked the infant up out of a bouncy seat after making a bottle for the infant. AS stated she moved the bottle/nipple back and forth across the infant's mouth so that the infant would latch onto the nipple of the bottle as is common practice. After latching onto the bottle, the infant took some of the formula per AS, (about one and a half ounces) but it was apparent that the child was not hungry. Because the child was not hungry, AS held the child to burp and then put the child into a crib for nap and moved on to other children that needed diaper changes or feedings. AS admitted that the child was fussy at this point. AS denied forcefully putting the child into a crib out of frustration or anger. It was noted during the interview that AS was visibly upset that somebody would think that she would hurt a

child.

Several other staff members who work or have worked with AS in the past and/or who were in the room during the alleged incident denied that AS has ever forcefully fed a child who was not hungry or put a child down forcefully in a crib out of anger. The one staff member that was present in the room during the alleged incident denied AS was force feeding the child or that AS was angry or upset with the child for not eating. This staff member also denied that AS put the child down forcefully. All staff members interviewed in person stated that they had never had an issue or questioned AS's care of infants. All staff members stated AS does her job with little or no redirection. However, it appears that AS could be more gentle when putting infants down in cribs before moving onto other tasks that need to be completed in the infant room. Staff stated AS has a tendency to move from one task to another very quickly and will put infants down quickly or pick them up quickly and especially if there are a lot of tasks to complete when she gets into work. All staff members who have seen this have denied that any injuries have ever occurred when AS puts children down in cribs or picks them up, but admitted that perhaps infants could become startled with being put down or picked up so quickly. All staff stated they do not believe AS would intentionally hurt a child.

Special Notes and Action Required:

No further action is being required at this time in regards to this incident. AS's mother was contacted on 11/3/14 in regards to the outcome of this licensing complaint.

Consultant's Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nate Kravitz", followed by a horizontal line.

Date:

11/03/2014